

31 July 2002  
PO Box 1566  
Tubac, AZ 85646  
Telephone 520-856-2552

Honorable Examiner Bali  
US PTO unit 2623  
Washington, DC

Re: Patent application 9 207 339

**Automated ID through Analysis of Optical Birefringence within Nail Beds**

Sir: Thank you for your kind telephone call of this date.

I recently discovered [copy attached] from the confusion of moving to Arizona information that may help resolve the fate of 9 207 339.

In review, there were several events that may have contributed to the confusion:

- The Anthrax problem that may have left all or part of 9 207 339 correspondence lost or in limbo
- My change of mailing address from San Francisco to Arizona

After speaking to you today it occurred to me that you mentioned only one request for an extension of time! I made a request for a second extension, for two months, I believe and have attached a copy of both return post cards.

Post card dated August 13, 2001 is most likely for the first extension of time

Post card dated October 5, 2002 is certainly for the second extension of time, for a 2 month period

*Is it possible that the request for a 2ed extension of time was lost in the anthrax mess? Would that have allowed my response, indicated as having be received by the PTO post office Feb 4 2002 to have been sent to the inactive files and never been sent to your attention?*

Were it that easy.

So, in the continuing fax I have included copies of three post cards returned by the PTO Post Office:

- Aug 13, 2001 requesting a 1<sup>st</sup> extension of time
- Oct 5, 2001 requesting a 2ed extension of time
- Feb 4, 2002 indicating receipt of a transmittal form and my response to action
- A copy of my response to your action, mailed on or about 20 November 2001 from San Francisco. As this is a copy from disk, it is unsigned.

If all seems in order, please contact me.

If all is in order, but the original of Amendment A for 09 207 339 is deemed lost or destroyed, please contact me and I will endeavor to send you a second copy of page 20 containing the signatures of the inventors and or any other documents that may been needed.

Most sincerely,

Al Topping

